



THE PULSE



Flu Vaccine Clinics

Walk-In Clinic:

- Open at VA Medical Center in Altoona Monday's and Tuesday's from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and Thursday's from 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. in the second-floor auditorium.

The clinic is open to Veterans, employees, and those enrolled in the Caregiver Support Program.

Veterans seeking a Flu Vaccine during non-clinic hours should contact their team.

COVID-19 Booster Clinics

- Open at VA Medical Center in Altoona on October, 5th & 19th from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and October, 12th & 26th from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the second-floor auditorium.

Veterans seeking a COVID-10 Vaccine during non-clinic hours should contact their team.

Photo Spotlight



Above: Dr. Martin Bolinger assists a Veteran in enrolling for VA Healthcare at the enrollment fair held at the Johnstown Outpatient Clinic. 68 Veterans were enrolled at the fair.

James E. Van Zandt VAMC Hosts Second Successful Enrollment Fair at Johnstown Clinic

By: Evan Hinkley

On Wednesday, September, 21, the James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center hosted an enrollment fair at its Johnstown Community Based Outpatient Clinic, where 68 Veterans were enrolled in VA Healthcare.

The fair featured enrollment specialists and Veteran Service Officers who assisted Veterans with enrolling into VA for healthcare and filing service-connected disability claims. The fair also included representatives from Whole Health, Women's Health, Mental Health, Connected Care, and other resources for veterans.

"Our mission is to ensure that all Veterans within our 14-county catchment area receive the healthcare they earned," said Interim Director Kenneth Mortimer. "With the help of our local community, we are creating a fun event that Veterans can enjoy, while also learning how to take full advantage of the benefits they earned."

Veterans who enrolled at the fair, received a free ticket voucher to attend any Johnstown Tomahawks home game during the 2022-2023 season. Chopper, the Tomahawks mascot, greeted Veterans at the fair. The VAMC plans to hold future enrollment fairs at other outpatient clinics.



VA Hosts Virtual Mental Health Summit for Veterans

By: Evan Hinkley

On Thursday, September, 15, the James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center hosted a virtual Mental Health Summit for Veterans and Employees. The theme for the 2022 Summit was "Life Happens: Live it Well".

"This virtual summit is a dynamic way of connecting Veterans to our expansive Mental Health resources," said Mr. Kenneth Mortimer, James E. Van Zandt VAMC Interim Director, "it serves as an important educational tool to teach Veterans about our Mental Health Team's programs, while ensuring they receive the care they deserve for serving our Nation."

Seven topics were presented at the summit, including featured presentations on adjusting to post-military life, the impact of deployment, and substance abuse & the road to recovery. Professionals from the James E. Van Zandt VAMC answered questions following each presentation.

The James E. Van Zandt VAMC is one of the largest Mental Health Service providers in its 14-county catchment area. The facility continues to grow its Mental Health program by expanding staff, telehealth appointment technology, and Veteran access to Mental Health services.

VA to Host Veteran Town Hall on the PACT Act

By: Evan Hinkley

The James E. Van Zandt VA Medical Center will be hosting a virtual Veteran town hall to provide an overview of the PACT Act. The town hall will be held on September 30, 2022 starting at 2:00 p.m. To access the virtual meeting, please use the information below.

Microsoft TEAMS Meeting Information: Meeting ID: 270 816 079 146 Passcode: yA9MiA
Or call in (audio only) 1-872-701-0185 Phone Conference ID: 926 076 354#